



## RANCHO PALOS VERDES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER • 30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275 • WEBSITE: WWW.RPVCA.GOV • 310.377.0360

## YOUR CITY COUNCIL IN ACTION!



This first-time Newsletter article lists some recent City Council agenda items and actions taken.

#### WANT TO LEARN MORE / DIG DEEPER?

For a full list of past and upcoming City Council Agendas, including full Staff Reports, Minutes and video of Council meetings, go to the City's website at http://www.rpvca.gov/772/City-Meeting-Video-and-Agendas.

To receive announcements about upcoming City Council meetings, go to the City's "Notify Me" Listserv at http://www.rpvca.gov/list.aspx and select "City Council." You can also receive weekly updates by signing up for the "Weekly Administrative Reports" list serve.

#### MARCH 1

#### Ordinance for Wireless Telecommunications Installations with City's Public Rights-of-Way

"Wireless Telecommunications
Facilities" Chapter added to
Municipal Code to provide uniform
and comprehensive regulations and
standards within Federal Regulation
Restrictions. Early neighborhood
notices and silhouettes are part of
the process.

## March 15

## Hawthorne Blvd Traffic Synchronization

Awarded construction contract for Hawthorne Blvd Traffic Synchronization Project to improve pedestrian and vehicle safety. It includes fiber optic wiring to connect Hesse Park and City Hall for better Council TV and City communications. The majority of funding for this project is from a CalTrans Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant.

### APRIL 5

#### Updated Public Safety Strategic Plan

Directed staff to continue with implementation of the Public Safety Strategic Plan, including bringing forth an agreement to purchase and install Automated License Plate Recognition Cameras. This is another tool to discourage criminal activity and help apprehend perpetrators.

## Support for AB2381 Regarding Power Outages

Authorized Mayor to sign a letter of support for Assembly Bill 2381 regarding compensation for extended power outages.

## APRIL 11

## Budget Kick-off!

**Budget Workshop:** Provided direction to staff on preliminary 2016-17 City Budget, including seeking out transportation funds from other cities at a discounted rate.

## APRIL 19

### Altamira Canyon Culvert

Addressed unauthorized access to the Altamira Canyon Culvert under Palos Verdes Drive South. Directed staff to work with local residents to address more permanent solutions to trespassing concerns. Public Works staff installed a metal screen to block access in May.

### FY 2016-17 Budget

Council reviewed and discussed 2016-17 Capital Improvement Budget and 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan.

### May 3

### Storm Drain User Fee Ending

The existing Storm Drain User Fee will be allowed to sunset on June 30, 2016. A renewal of this

continued on page 2

## CRIME CORNER

#### HELPING PRESERVE THE PRESERVE

## Sheriff's Deputies Assigned to Palos Verdes Nature Preserve

There's a new Sheriff in the City's beloved and much-used Palos Verdes Nature Preserve! The City will begin contracting with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to provide enforcement in all 11 Preserve properties beginning July 1, 2016. Since 2009, the City has contracted with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for ranger services in the Preserve. The City thanks MRCA for their service, and for the positive impact they have made in the Preserve. MRCA is working closely with staff and the Lomita Sheriff's Department to ensure a smooth transition.

Deputies are highly-trained peace officers with extensive local knowledge and experience, and the City has a long-standing and positive working relationship with the Lomita Sheriff's Department. The City Council emphasized the importance of increased enforcement in the Preserve, therefore patrol hours will double beginning in July to approximately 80 hours per week. So if you're hiking, biking, or riding your horse in the Preserve be sure to follow the rules: it's the right thing to do and there's a good chance you'll run into a Preserve Deputy! When you do, please say hello and feel free to discuss any Preserve enforcement concerns. Together we can keep the City's beloved Preserve an enjoyable, special place for generations to come.

#### A SCAM THAT'S NOT ALL IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE

Criminals are a resourceful bunch always on the lookout for the latest scam. Here's one to be aware of. RPV residents have report-

ed receiving phone calls from City staff saying they have received reports of cracks in the resident's driveways or patios or other improvements needed at their homes. Sound legitimate? These "staff" then offer to come over to investigate these problems at the homes. If you get a suspicious call like this, don't hesitate to contact City Hall directly at

310.377.0360. If you have fallen prey to these scammers, please contact the Lomita Sheriff's Department at 310.539.1661. And definitely don't give out any of your personal information. Thanks for keeping RPV safe and secure.

## More Sheriff's Presence On The Peninsula Protecting Unincorporated Areas

The Peninsula has a small area of unincorporated land surrounded by Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates and Rancho Palos Verdes. Unlike the other four cities on the Peninsula, it is governed by Los Angeles County. As the result of some additional Violent Crime Enforcement Unit

funds becoming available, the Board of Supervisors recently approved two Deputies and one Sergeant for this area for FY16-17. This benefits the Peninsula as there will be more law enforcement presence seen throughout the area.

## SPOTLIGHT ON GABRIELLA YAP, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER



Gabriella Yap began her tenure as Deputy City Manager in October 2015 after serving as Assistant City Manager for the City of La Habra Heights since 2011. She previously held positions with Beverly Hills, the County of Los Angeles, and Torrance. Gabriella recently took some time to answer some questions about herself and the many hats she's worn in her career and in RPV.

### What led you to a career in City Government?

I fell into City Government by accident. After getting my BA at UCLA and working in private sector accounting, I went to work as a fund

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ECK-M22

Prsrt-STD U.S. Postage PAID Torrance Permit # 194

CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES 30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275

## PARKS MAKE SUMMERS FUN!

July is "Parks and Recreation Month," a time to recognize the value of parks, recreation and open space in our lives and in our communities. The RPV Recreation and Parks Department is offering fun and

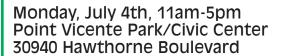


enriching activities all summer

long! Check us out! For more information about our special events and programs, visit the City website at www.rpvca.gov or call 310.544.5260.

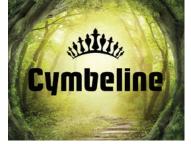
Below are a few Special Event Highlights. For more information, check out the new Recreation Guide **Newsletter insert!** 

## CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY IN RPV!





## SHAKESPEARE BY THE SEA



## PRESENTS "CYMBELINE"

All the World's a Stage at Hesse Park tonight! Sunday, July 10, from 7pm-9pm. Visit shakespearebythesea.org for more information

## MOVIE IN THE PARK SERIES!

#### Free admission and parking!

Seating on the grass; bring your own blanket or low-slung beach chair. Come early and enjoy a picnic. Enjoy family friendly games before the movie. Dress warmly!



Dogs are not allowed at these events.

### Opening Night: STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS

Saturday, June 25, Activities begin at 6pm Hesse Park – Upper Grass Field 29301 Hawthorne Boulevard, RPV

## **Drive-In Movie: CARS**

Friday, July 15, Activities begin at 6pm Pt. Vicente Park/Civic Center (RPV City Hall site) 30940 Hawthorne Boulevard, RPV

### Mid-Summer Movie: MINIONS

Saturday, August 6, Activities begin at 6pm Ladera Linda Park – Lower Field

32201 Forrestal Drive, RPV

## **End of Summer Movie: ZOOTOPIA**

Saturday, August 27, Activities begin at 6pm Eastview Park - Upper Grass Area 1700 Westmont Drive, RPV

## CITY COUNCIL ACTION (Continued from page 1)

## May 3 (continued)

fee will not be placed on a ballot for resident voting.

### No July 4th Fireworks

Fireworks display not approved for Fourth of July either this year or in 2017. Many residents objected to the cost and potential neighborhood impacts.

### **MAY 17**

## Marilyn Ryan Park

Council addressed reports of vandalism and undesirable nighttime activities at Marilyn Ryan Sunset Point Park. Staff to look into implementing mitigation measures,

increased law enforcement presence, and after-hours vehicle towing.

### Ban on Short-Term Rentals

Approved initiating a code ammendment to prohibit short-term rentals in single-family residential zones.

## **Peafowl Trapping**

Directed staff to resume the humane trapping and relocation of up to 150 peafowl in five neighborhoods.

### Special Events Permit

Introduced an ordinance to provide a coordinated process for managing community events to ensure public health and safety and to mitigate neighborhood impacts.

## COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERISM IN ACTION: RYAN PARK FACE LIFT



The oldest park in the City got some much-needed TLC on Thursday, May 12, 2016. Over fifty volunteers from Keller Williams Realty Palos Verdes volunteered for a spring cleaning event at Ryan Park. They put a much needed fresh coat of paint on the main building and painted all the handrails. They also swept out the baseball dugouts just in time for baseball season.

The volunteers wore red shirts as part of Keller Williams' national RED DAY, which promotes renewing, energizing, and donating to local communities. All of the volunteers lived up to the RED DAY motto-Give Where You Live.

Any other companies or volunteers who are interested in volunteer projects of any size should contact Volunteer Coordinator Mary Hirsch at 310.544.5355 or maryh@rpvca.gov.

## PVPLC VOLUNTEER DAYS

RSVP: pvplc.volunteerhub.com Questions: Call 310.541.7613

#### AGUA AMARGA RESERVE

Saturdays, June 4 and July 16 ~ 9am-12pm

## PORTUGUESE BEND RESERVE

Saturday July 2 ~ 9am-12pm



## PALOS VERDES NATURE PRESERVE STAFF



The City of Rancho Palos Verdes co-manages the 1400-acre Palos Verdes Nature Preserve with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. Protecting this beautiful and cherished asset is of prime importance.

In order to better maintain this community jewel, the City's Recreation and Parks Department began staffing the Preserve in March 2016. Open Space Management (OSM) staff is now patrolling all 11 Reserves 75 hours per week. OSM's goal is to enhance public safety and habitat protection while improving the overall experience for Preserve visitors. OSM staff will help educate the public on wayfinding, hiking safety,

and the importance of staying on designated trails for habitat protection. OSM staff will work closely with the Lomita Sheriff Preserve deputies to educate the public about the amazing resource they are enjoying, and how to protect it.

OSM staff have already been conducting maintenance work in the Preserve, including the removal of almost a thousand pounds of debris from multiple sites. Please look for City OSM staff in their polos and khaki pants uniforms, and ask questions and let them know your thoughts and experiences. We look forward to seeing you, and you seeing us more often in the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve!

## BECOME A LOS SERENOS DOCENT

## TRAINING BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH!

OS SERENOS

Enrich your life and give back to the community! For over 30 years, Los Serenos de Point Vicente volunteer docents have

been assisting the City of Rancho Palos Verdes by benefiting children and the community. Docents learn about the natural and cultural history of the Peninsula, and then share their knowledge by leading tours through the Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center museum or nature hikes at various outdoor locations in the City. Los Serenos docents are also involved in various outreach programs and enjoy fun docent gatherings and interesting field trips, too. The Point Vicente Interpretive Center (PVIC) is located

at 31501 Palos Verdes Drive West, in Rancho Palos Verdes.

The next docent training class begins Wednesday,
September 14, from 12:30pm to 3:30pm, at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center. Classes are held September through February (no classes during the holidays).

Come to our new docent Open House on Wednesday, August 31, at 7:00pm at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center. You will have a chance to talk with docents and learn first-hand about what they do and the fun they have! You may also visit www.LosSerenos.org or www.facebook.com/LosSerenos.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!



Sundays: June 12, July 17 & August 21 • 10am - Noon

Volunteers interested in learning about native California plants and gardening skills are wanted to assist with keeping the Point Vicente Native Plant Garden beautiful and pristine. Volunteers ages 14 and older.

## PT. VICENTE PARK/CIVIC CENTER

July 4th Celebration • Monday, July 4, 9:30am – 4:00pm

Volunteers are wanted for the annual July 4th Celebration to assist with crafts, games, and setup/breakdown of canopies, tables and chairs. Volunteers ages 14 and older.

## TAKE A HIKE WITH US! FREE NATURE WALKS THIS SUMMER

Los Serenos de Point Vicente Docents lead nature walks year-round at a variety of beautiful sites in the City. Join us this summer for some fun in the great outdoors!

Wear sturdy walking shoes, sunscreen and a hat and bring a bottle of water. These two-hour nature walks are free and require no reservations; just show up! In the event of rain, the walk will be cancelled. If you are interested in becoming a docent, visit the Los Serenos docent website at www.losserenos.org. To schedule a hike for your family and friends, organization or business, please call the Hike Coordinator at 310.377.5375.

#### Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center/Vicente Bluffs Reserve/ Pt. Vicente Lighthouse

Saturday, June 18, 10:00am • Saturday, August 20, 10:00am

Join us for a tour of the Point Vicente Lighthouse grounds, the PVIC museum, the native plant garden and a walk along the spectacular bluff top at the Vicente Bluffs Reserve. *Easy*. Park in the parking lot of the Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center.

## OCEAN TRAILS RESERVE

Saturday, July 16, 3:00pm

Walk the public trail system and enjoy the beautiful vistas and summer blooming habitat. *Moderate*. Meet in the lot at the end of La Rotonda Drive.

## PALOS VERDES PENINSULA LAND CONSERVANCY PUBLIC HIKES

For more info, please contact info@pvplc.org or call 310.541.7613

Abalone Cove Shoreline Park • Saturday, June 11th @ 9am 5970 Palos Verdes Drive South (parking fee will be waived).

La Rotonda/Ocean Trails • Saturday, July 9th @ 9am
Trump National Golf Club. Meet at end of La Rotonda Drive.

Vicente Bluffs/Vanderlip Park • Saturday, August 13th @ 9am Pelican Cove Lot, 31300 Palos Verdes Drive South.

Alta Vicente Reserve • Saturday, September 10th @ 9am RPV City Hall, 30940 Hawthorne Blvd.

## CITY DOCUMENTS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



You can now access City Documents from your computer, tablet, or smart phone. Just go to the City's website at http://www.rpvca.gov/ and click the green "Documents" button at the top of our homepage to open the document repository. Here you will find historical documents about the City's Incorporation, current City Contracts, Resolutions, Ordinances, Minutes and more. You may click through the folders in Browse mode or use the white search window next to the green magnifying glass in the top middle of the screen to narrow your search.

More Advanced Search options are available by clicking on the Advanced

Search text just below the City logo. Here you will find easy-to-use templates for searching specific kinds of documents going back to the City's incorporation in 1973. To use these templates simply click on the underlined text for the category you would like to search and enter a keyword and/or date range about which you are interested. To navigate back to the list of search templates or return to the Browse screen just use the back arrow or click on the text Click here to view ALL DOCUMENTS.

We hope you find the repository useful. For additional information please call Lorna in the City Clerk's office at 310.544.5276.

## GREEN CORNER



## **RECYCLE AND WIN!**

If you recycle, you could win \$250! In your July EDCO billing you will find the "Recycler of the Month" entry card. If you recycle your yard waste in the green containers and/or your paper, newspaper, cans, bottles, glass in the blue recycling containers, just fill out the entry card and mail it in. At each City Council meeting two lucky verified recyclers will each win a check for \$250! You could easily be one of the 48 lucky annual winners. If you pay online, please see online link and instructions. This is another way the City thanks RPV residents for recycling. If you need more blue or green recycling containers, call EDCO at 310.540.2977.

## HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Summer is around the corner and it's time for gardening! Smart Gardening is an easy way to empower your flowers and keep your Zen gardens rocking while using less water, energy, and resources. You can save yourself time and money while doing something that helps keep the City a nice place to live.

Water-wise gardening involves using landscaping techniques to help conserve water while maintaining a beautiful yard. Here are five steps to maintain a lush efficient garden that requires less water and pruning:

- 1. Hydro-zone: Group plants according to their water needs so that low water-use, moderate water-use and high water-use plants are grouped together. Also, use elevated planting beds so that plants are watered more efficiently, thereby reducing overall water usage.
- 2. Selecting plants: Use drought-tolerant or native plants to create a low water-use, low maintenance landscape.
- 3. Irrigation: Install sprinklers, drip emitters, and timers so you only give plants the amount of water they actually need.
- 4. Improve your soil: Mix compost into your soil to improve its moisture retaining capability and fertility.5. Use mulch: Place mulch around your plants, along walkways, and on
- top of other bare areas to reduce water use and prevent weeds.

  For more info, go to LA County Department of Public Works Smart
  Gardening Website: http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sg/

## RECYCLE AT THE PARKS

The City of RPV has wonderful parks, and they look even better without bottles and cans strewn about. So with summer right around the corner, please enjoy your outdoor activities responsibly by throwing away trash and recyclables in the proper containers. Make sure you and your children recycle water and juice bottles and cans. Place all empty beverage containers in the specially marked recycling bins at the parks and place food waste in the trash containers. Thank you for helping to keep RPV parks clean and enjoyable for everyone!







## OVERSTUFFED HOUSE? DON'T MOAN AND MUTTER-DECLUTTER!

## ELECTRONICS, BULKY ITEMS & EXCESS TRASH COLLECTION

EDCO offers customers free, limited curbside collection of bulky and electronic waste items such as mattresses, sofas, water heaters, tables, TVs, computers, DVD players, etc. Call EDCO to arrange for a collection date. Remember, if your item could be re-used, please contact a charitable organization first.





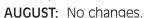
Had a party? Cleaned your garage? If you have excess trash that does not fit into your regular trash cart, call EDCO and inquire about the twice a year free excess trash collection. Excess pickups must be arranged with EDCO in advance. Call 310-540-2977.

## HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION **SCHEDULE**

EDCO 310.540.2977, www.rpvrecycles.com

JUNE: No changes.

JULY: There is no service on Monday, July 4th, Independence Day, All services during the week will be delayed by one day.



**SEPTEMBER:** There is no service on Monday, September 5th, Labor Day. All services will be delayed by one day.

Leave all containers at the curb no later than 7am on collection day, and remove empty containers by no later than 10pm on collection day. Empty carts cannot be left on the street overnight.

## EDCO DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

EDCO offers various discounts to customers. Customers 65 and older are eligible for a 10% senior citizen discount. If you pay for trash services a year in advance (discount available only with July-Sept invoice) you are eligible for a 5% annual pre-payment discount. Low-income customers may qualify for a 5% discount (same household income criteria as CARE). These discounts are not exclusive and may be combined. For more information, contact your hauler or check the City website at: http://www.rpvca.gov/310/Solid-Waste-Recycling

## CITY HALL PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall Main Line	310.377.0360
City Manager's Office	310.544.5207
City Clerk's Office	310.544.5217
Finance	310.377.0360
Community Development	310.544.5228
Public Works	310.544.5252
Recreation and Parks	310.544.5260
Building & Safety Division	310.265.7800

## CITY COUNCIL

Ken Dyda, Mayor Email: ken.dyda@rpvca.gov

Brian Campbell, Mayor Pro Tem Email: brian.campbell@rpvca.gov Susan Brooks, Councilmember

Email: susan.brooks@rpvca.gov Jerry Duhovic, Councilmember

Email: jerry.duhovic@rpvca.gov

Anthony Misetich, Councilmember Email: anthony.misetich@rpvca.gov

# CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES

Editors: Gabriella Yap and Matt Waters

**Summer 2016 Contributing Writers:** 

Lorna Cloke, Mona Dill, James Flannigan, Mary Hirsch, Katie Lozano, Carla Morreale, Karen Okstad, Lauren Ramezani, Nancie Silver and Matt Waters

Comments? Email mattw@rpvca.gov or call 310.544.5218

## SPOTLIGHT ON GABRIELLA YAP (Continued from page 1)

developer and grant writer for Court AB109. This is at the top of my Appointed Special Advocates, a great non-profit that advocates for foster children. I started taking graduate classes at CSULB in non-profit management, which were part of the Masters in Public Administration (MPA) program. There, I learned that you could help people through the public sector, received my MPA, and went on to local government at the City and County levels.

#### Tell us about your past work and educational experiences.

After my time in the non-profit world, I was a Management Aide for the City of Torrance, then was selected for the County of Los Angeles' competitive, 2-year Administrative Intern program, focusing on Human Resources and budgeting and finance in the CEO's office. After the program, I stayed in the CEO's office and managed the District Attorney's and Sheriff's departmental budgets and law enforcement grants. Following that, I went to the City of Beverly Hills' Finance Department and worked on the operating budget, including special revenue funds and enterprise funds, and managing the capital budget. To gain broader experience, I went to the City of La Habra Heights a few years later as the Assistant to the City Manager and was eventually promoted to the Assistant City Manager/ Administrative Services Director. There I managed HR, Finance, grants, Parks, and other administrative functions. These experiences ultimately led me to RPV.

#### What qualities and attributes should an effective Deputy City Manager possess?

Ethics and integrity first and foremost. Knowledge and understanding of the City's finances, staffing, and processes to maximize resources. Respect for everyone and their viewpoints. The ability to communicate and collaborate with various stakeholders to achieve overarching goals. Strategic and innovative thinking to solve problems. Good judgment and a willingness to confront difficult situations.

#### What are some of the biggest strengths of Rancho Palos Verdes and what are some of its most significant challenges?

RPV's strengths include its financial soundness, having an informed and educated Council and residents, and its commitment to transparency and encouragement of citizen participation.

On the other hand, public safety has been a significant challenge recently, likely after-effects of Prop 47 and

priority list and we continue to work with the Sheriff's Department on developing solutions to lower crime rates. Additionally, the landslide area is an extremely unique geological challenge that we don't have an easy answer to or even experience from another city to draw upon.

#### What is your biggest challenge?

Aside from public safety issues discussed above, preparing for attrition and succession planning. There are numerous benefits to being a smaller contract city, such as being able to "right-size" your staff and control costs. However, it is not uncommon for there to be only one person in the City who performs a particular function and there can be limited growth opportunities here. There is a need to cross-train and to create opportunities for employee growth and movement in the organization to retain talent and ensure consistent levels of service to residents.

#### What would you like the residents of RPV to know about you?

I am excited to be part of the RPV team and I see why the residents love living here. My goal is to help residents maintain the quality of life that they value so much by reducing crime, maintaining fiscal responsibility, and constantly improving our customer service to residents.

#### What are some of your shortterm and long-term goals for the City?

Short-term goals are reducing residential burglaries through our public safety plan; producing a Continuity of Operations Plan to ensure City Hall can continue to service residents in the event of a large-scale emergency; and implementing a number of IT projects that will assist City departments in providing services to our clients.

Long-term goals includes reducing overall crime in the area and having more Sheriff's presence and better response times; working with HR to further develop staff and increase performance; continuing implementation of best practices and looking at ways we can be more efficient and effective before asking for more resources or sacrificing transparency.

#### How do you enjoy spending time away from work?

Spending time with family and friends, going to the beach (especially the dog beach), and visiting kid-friendly museums with my two little boys.

## RPV CITY PARK HOURS

## YEAR-ROUND PARK HOURS

Mon.-Fri.~ 9:00am-dusk

Abalone Cove Shoreline Park ~ 310.377.1222

Daily ~ 9:00am-dusk

Fred Hesse Jr. Community Park ~ 310.541.8114

Sat. & Sun. ~ 10:00am-dusk

Ladera Linda Community Center & Park ~ 310.541.7073 Mon.-Fri. ~ 12:00pm-5:00pm Sat. & Sun. ~ 10:00am-5:00pm

Point Vicente Interpretive Center (PVIC) ~ 310.377.5370

Daily ~ 10:00am-5:00pm

Robert E. Ryan Community Park ~ 310.377.2290 Daily ~ 9:00am-dusk

Eastview Park ~ 310.544.5260

Daily ~ dawn-dusk

All park grounds in the City may be enjoyed from dawn to dusk. Park buildings at Hesse Park, Ryan Park, Ladera Linda and PVIC will be closed Thanksgiving Day, December 24 & 25th, and January 1, but park grounds and restrooms will be open. Abalone Cove's gates, parking lot and restrooms will remain closed on these holidays.

The leash law is enforced in all City Parks. Off-leash dogs are allowed only in Rancho Caninos Dog Park at Point Vicente Park/Civic Center.

